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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/688,854	10/16/2000	Rick Rowe	IGTECH.0009P	1791

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EXAMINER

PILLAI, NAMITHA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2173

DATE MAILED: 12/21/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/688,854

Applicant(s)

ROWE ET AL.

Examiner

Namitha Pillai

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the corresponding address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 May 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8, 10-14 and 17-33 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8, 10-14 and 17-33 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

1. Claims 1-8, 10-14 and 17-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being clearly anticipated by U. S. Patent No. 6,682,421 B1 (Rowe et al.), herein referred to as Rowe.

Referring to claim 1, Rowe discloses a method of configuring a graphical user interface associated with an application executed by a computing device of a gaming system (column 6, lines 1-10). Rowe discloses that the gaming system includes at least one gaming device adapted to accept a wager by a player, present a game, and grant an award for predetermined winning events (column 1, lines 23-35 and column 2, lines 1-6). Rowe discloses providing a set of navigation selectable elements, accepting a first input from a given user of the gaming system, accepting a second input from an operator of the gaming system, providing a user identification associated with the given user, determining a user profile from the user identification, determining which elements the set of navigation selectable elements that the user is permitted to view in accordance with the user profile and displaying only the navigation selectable elements the user is allowed to view, wherein the resulting display is customized to the user based at least in part upon the first input and second input (column 7, lines 35-60).

Referring to claim 2, Rowe discloses that the navigation selectable elements include container elements (column 7, lines 40-43).

Referring to claim 3, Rowe discloses that the navigation selectable elements comprise application initiating elements (column 7, lines 36-37).

Referring to claim 4, Rowe discloses that the navigation selectable elements are arranged in a hierarchical format (column 7, lines 40-43).

Referring to claim 5, Rowe discloses displaying one or more of the navigation selectable elements as buttons (column 7, lines 53-54).

Referring to claim 6, Rowe discloses displaying the navigation selectable elements in a tree form (column 7, lines 40-43).

Referring to claim 7, Rowe discloses displaying the displayed navigation selectable elements in a form dependent upon the user profile (column 7, lines 62-67).

Referring to claim 8, Rowe discloses that the user profile is associated with a device, which displays the graphical user interface (column 8, lines 7-10).

Referring to claim 10, Rowe discloses a method of configuring a graphical user interface associated with an application executed by a computing device of a gaming system (column 6, lines 1-10). Rowe discloses that the gaming system includes at least one gaming device adapted to accept a wager by a player, present a game, and grant an award for predetermined winning events (column 1, lines 23-35 and column 2, lines 1-6). Rowe discloses providing a set of navigation selectable elements, with the navigation selectable elements having a predetermined order, accepting a first input from a given user of the gaming system, accepting a second input from an operator of the gaming system, providing a user identification associated with the given

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user, determining a user profile from the user identification, determining an access point for the ordered navigation selectable elements for the user based on the profile, the access point determining a portion of the navigation selectable elements which are accessible to the user and a portion of the navigation selectable elements which are not accessible to the user based on order thereof and displaying only one or more of the navigation selectable elements which are accessible to the user, wherein the resulting display is customized to the user based at least in part upon the first input and second input (column 7, lines 35-60).

Referring to claim 11, Rowe discloses that the navigation selectable elements are arranged into one or more levels, and the access point comprises one of the levels (column 7, lines 36-44).

Referring to claim 12, Rowe discloses that the navigation selectable elements associated with one or more levels higher than the level with which the access point is associated are not accessible to the user (column 8, lines 1-7).

Referring to claim 13, Rowe discloses determining a configuration for the navigation selectable elements based upon the user profile and displaying the navigation selectable elements in accordance with the configuration (column 7, lines 62-67 and column 8, lines 1-7).

Referring to claim 14, Rowe discloses determining if the user is restricted from viewing one or more of the navigation selectable elements based upon the user profile and preventing the display of those elements (column 7, lines 62-67 and column 8, lines 1-7).

Referring to claim 17, Rowe discloses a gaming system, with a computing device adapted to accept a first input from a given user of the gaming system (column 7, lines 21-50). Rowe discloses a second input from an operator of the gaming system (column 7, lines 50-54). Rowe

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discloses at least one gaming device associated with the computing device, the gaming device adapted to accept a wager by a player, present a game, and grant an award for predetermined winning events (column 1, lines 23-35 and column 2, lines 1-6). Rowe discloses at least one first user station and at least one second user station associated with the system for displaying information and for providing input to the computing device (column 2, lines 1-15). Rowe discloses a graphical user interface for displaying the information, with a main window having a navigation viewport displaying one or more navigation selectable elements, one or more of the one or more navigation selectable elements comprising an application initiating element, and a data viewport arranged to display information associated with an application initiated by selection of one of the one or more application initiating elements (column 7, lines 34-47). Rowe discloses that the graphical user interface is adapted to display the navigation selectable elements in a plurality of configurations dependent upon a configuration of a station on which the graphical user interface is displayed or a user profile and wherein the resulting display is customized to the user based at least in part upon the first input and second input (column 7, lines 47-67 and column 8, lines 1-7).

Referring to claim 18, Rowe discloses that a user station comprises a station having a touch-sensitive display and wherein the graphical user interface adapted to display one or more of the navigation selectable elements as user-selectable buttons (column 7, lines 50-54).

Referring to claim 19, Rowe discloses that the second user station includes mouse and keyboard input devices and the graphical user interface is adapted to display the navigation selectable elements in a tree form (column 3, lines 55-60 and column 7, lines 40-43).

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Referring to claim 20, Rowe discloses that the graphical user interface is associated with a gaming system accounting system (column 7, lines 36-38).

Referring to claim 21, Rowe discloses that the accounting system comprises a soft count system arranged to sort currency, vouchers, tickets, or any combination thereof that have been accepted by one or more gaming devices within the gaming system (column 1, lines 26-31).

Referring to claim 22, Rowe discloses verifying the authenticity of accepted vouchers or tickets and reconcile the accepted vouchers or tickets against those that have been recorded as having been received and paid by one or more gaming devices within the gaming system (column 9, lines 5-25).

Referring to claim 23, Rowe discloses that the accounting system is adapted for use by casino financial personnel and cashiers, wherein at least one user profile for one cashier does not permit the display of soft count information to the cashier on the gaming system (column 9, lines 6-10 and column 8, lines 1-7).

Referring to claim 24, Rowe discloses accounting system comprises an audit system adapted to poll a host of the gaming system to confirm proper operation of the system (column 5, lines 16-24).

Referring to claim 25, Rowe discloses that the location of one or more elements of the graphical user interface is device specific (column 7, lines 34-46).

Referring to claim 26, Rowe discloses that the location of one or more elements of the graphical user interface is user specific (column 7, lines 62-67).

Referring to claim 27, Rowe discloses that the location of the one or more elements of the graphical user interface depends on whether a particular user is left or right handed (column 7, lines 62-67).

Referring to claim 28, Rowe discloses that one or more of the one or more navigation selectable elements comprise a level navigation button (column 7, lines 50-54).

Referring to claim 29, Rowe discloses that the level navigation button is not made available to all users of the gaming system (column 7, lines 62-67).

Referring to claim 30, Rowe discloses that at least some users of the gaming system are not permitted to change the configuration of the graphical user interface (column 8, lines 1-7).

Referring to claim 31, Rowe discloses that user profile comprises a common user profile shared by a plurality of users of the gaming system (column 2, lines 1-6).

Referring to claim 32, Rowe discloses a method of configuring a graphical user interface associated with a gaming system (column 3, lines 20-24). Rowe discloses that the gaming system includes at least one gaming device adapted to accept a wager by a player, present a game, and grant an award for predetermined winning events (column 1, lines 23-35 and column 2, lines 1-6). Rowe discloses providing a set of navigation selectable elements, at least one navigation selectable element comprising a level navigation button, wherein said level navigation button is not made available to all users of the gaming system (column 7, lines 50-67). Rowe discloses accepting a first input from a given user of the gaming system, accepting a second input from an operator of the gaming system, providing a user identification associated with the given user, determining a first user profile from the user identification (column 7, lines 47-61). Rowe discloses that the first user profile being determined from a set of user profiles, wherein at

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least one of the user profiles comprises a common user profile shared by a plurality of users of the gaming system (column 7, lines 47-67). Rowe discloses determining which elements from the set of navigation selectable elements that the user is permitted to view in accordance with the first user profile and displaying only the navigation selectable elements that the user is allowed to view, wherein the resulting display is customized to the user based at least in part upon the first input and second input (column 7, lines 47-67).

Referring to claim 33, Rowe discloses a soft count system arranged to sort, reconcile and verify the authenticity of currency, vouchers, tickets, or any combination thereof that have been accepted by one or more gaming devices within the gaming system (column 9, lines 5-25), and wherein the accounting system is adapted for use by casino financial personnel and cashiers, wherein at least one user profile for one cashier does not permit the display of soft count information to the cashier on the gaming system (column 9, lines 6-10 and column 8, lines 1-7).

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments filed 5/28/04 have been fully considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record on form PTO-892 and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Applicant is required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111(c) to consider these references fully when responding to this action. The documents cited therein teach the method for configuring a graphical user interface for a gaming system.

Responses to this action should be mailed to: Commissioner of Patents and

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Trademarks, Washington D.C. 20231. If applicant desires to fax a response, central FAX number (703) 872-9306 may be used. NOTE: A Request for Continuation (Rule 60 or 62) cannot be faxed.

Please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT" for informal facsimile communications. For after final responses, please label "AFTER FINAL" or "EXPEDITED PROCEDURE" on the document. Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

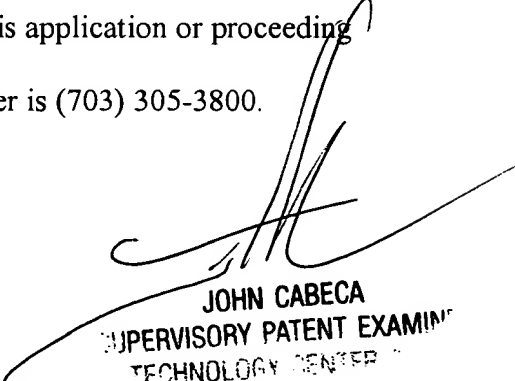
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Namitha Pillai whose telephone number is (571) 272-4054. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 AM - 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cabeca can be reached on (571) 272-4048.

All Internet e-mail communications will be made of record in the application file. PTO employees do not engage in Internet communications where there exists a possibility that sensitive information could be identified or exchanged unless the record includes a properly signed express waiver of the confidentiality requirements of 35 U.S.C. 122. This is more clearly set forth in the Interim Internet Usage Policy published in the Official Gazette of the Patent and Trademark on February 25, 1997 at 1195 OG 89.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3800.

Namitha Pillai
Assistant Examiner
Art Unit 2173
December 11, 2004



JOHN CABECA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER